recommendations made in the Report of the GoM on 11th May, 2001 with the modification that a view on the recommendation relating to the institution of the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) will be taken after consultation with various political parties. The implementation of the recommendations of the GoM has already commenced. In order to ensure that the recommendations are implemented in a time bound manner, the implementation process is being closely monitored by the Government.

Border fencing in Tripura by Border Roads Organisations

3376. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Border Roads Organisations has taken up border fencing in Tripura;

(b) what percentage of the Indo-Bangladesh border in Tripura has been fenced till date; and

(c) by when the fencing work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU): (a) Border Fencing of 736 Km in Tripura was approved by Ministry of Home Affairs in June 2000.

(b) Fencing work is yet to commence.

(c) Works are proposed for commencement during 2001-2002. The probable date of completion is March 2007.

Sainik Schools in Bihar

3377. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Sainik School in the country;

(b) whether there is any proposal to open a Sainik School in Bihar in order to encourage military education; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU): (a) There are 18 Sainik Schools in the country.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Proposal for setting up of four Sainik Schools in Bihar has been received by the Ministry. As per the provisions of Sainik Schools

Society Rules & Regulations, the setting up of Sainik Schools is contingent to the State Government committing to provide necessary finances (capital and recurring expenditure). The Government of Bihar has not given such a commitment.

Multi Role Transport Aircraft

3378. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the work on the design and development of the Multi Role Transport Aircraft by HAL Ltd., and a Russian Consortium has reached an advanced stage; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRJSHNAMRAJU): (a) and (b)No, Sir. The work on the design and development of Multi Role Transport Aircraft (MTA) has not yet started. A Heads of Agreement has been signed between HAL and Russian entities to jointly prepare a Detailed Project Report (DPR) to establish the viability of the MTA Project.

Bharat Earth Movers Limited

3379. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether public sector Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) has shown all-round progress and improvements during the recent years;

(b) if so.the details of the turn-over as well as profits earned by the Company during 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000 and projected turn-over and profit for 2001-2002;

(c) the details of the specilized supplies made to Coal India Limited, Railways and foreign countries during the aforesaid period;

(d) whether the Company has recently embarked upon the cost efficient methods of its products and also production of specialized equipment for Disaster Management Programmes; and

(e) if so, the success achievement in this regared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRJSHNAMRAJU): (a) and (b) The details of turn over and profit earned by Bharat Earth Movers Limited during the last four years and projected turnover and profit for the current year are as follows:—